



## NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development  
Rm. 152 Federal Building 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, Neb. 68508  
(402) 437-5551 (Phone) (402) 437-5093 (TDY) (402) 437-5408 (Fax)

Mary Gambill, (402) 387-2242 ext. 4

### USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS IN BUILDING FIRE HALL FOR MERRIMAN

**Merriman, Neb., October 25, 2005**—The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development awarded a community facility grant of \$88,500 to the village of Merriman to assist in the construction of a village fire hall. The Rural Fire Department will contribute \$50,000, with the village assisting with utility service connections, property survey, and interior finish work. Project will serve 118 local residents and the area's rural residents.

"On behalf of the village, I wish to thank USDA Rural Development and our Rural Fire Department in helping us build our new fire hall," stated Deacon Jones, vice chairman for village of Merriman and assistant fire chief.

Merriman's existing fire hall is no longer sufficient due to its size, age and structure. The new fire hall will be an insulated and heated metal building with three large garage doors, an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant restroom, and will contain adequate space for three grass rigs, two loaded tank trucks and an ambulance.

"It is very rewarding to work with communities like Merriman. USDA Rural Development is pleased to assist with the dollars needed to build their fire hall which serves a large geographic area and many rural residents," stated Mary Gambill, rural development manager for USDA Rural Development.

For additional information contact Mary Gambill, (402) 387-2242 ext 4, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); [mary.gambill@ne.usda.gov](mailto:mary.gambill@ne.usda.gov); 731 East 4th, Ainsworth, Neb. 69210; Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

#

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."  
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights,  
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410  
or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).